

CLASSIFICATION ~~CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY~~ 25X1ACOUNTRY Poland

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Soviet Signal Unit at Chrzanow

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EVALUATION [REDACTED]

PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

25X1C

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

DATE PREPARED 27 September 1950

REFERENCES [REDACTED]

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PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. Prior to mid-April 1950, a Soviet signal unit was quartered in a camp consisting of log buildings and situated in the woods about two km west of Chrzanow (Q 51/Y 85), on the southern side of the Chrzanow-Jaworzno (Q 51/Y 76) road. The camp could be seen from the road. A winged Soviet star with lightning flashes was mounted over the entrance to the camp. Polish drivers engaged in black-market operations with the Soviet troops referred to the unit as a signal battalion.
2. Groups of Soviet signal soldiers with small trucks without tops were frequently seen engaged in maintenance work on the telephone line running parallel to the Chrzanow-Jaworzno road and past the Jaworzno PT Camp. Convoys of 10 trucks were observed frequently while they were en route toward Katowice prior to the middle of February 1950. By that time the troops seemed to have completed the construction of a cable line from Krakow (Q 51/Z 24) to Katowice. The cable, with a diameter of about 20 mm, was suspended in wire loops from the telegraph poles standing there. Source followed the cable in the direction of Krakow as far as the street-car terminal.
3. In the fall of 1948, Soviet signal troops had completed construction of a double telephone line from Jaworzno to Chrzanow. The wires had been rigged to insulator brackets below the cross pieces of the telegraph poles. *

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[REDACTED] Comment. Soviet motorized and signal units were located in Katowice in December 1948, according to another untested source. At that time the signal units constructed a special communication line from Katowice to Krakow. [REDACTED] That line was confirmed by the present report and was probably maintained by the signal unit observed west of Chrzanow. It is considered possible that the unit had moved there from Katowice.

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| Class. Changed To: | TS S C |
| Auth: HR 70-2 | |
| Date: 28-2-78 | |
| By: | 034 |